



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masamichi TAKAHASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2857

Application No.: 10/762,475

Examiner:

Filed: January 23, 2004

Docket No.: 118463

For: EVALUATION APPARATUS AND EVALUATION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

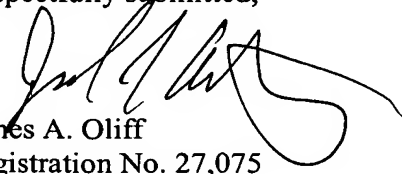
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language references 1-6 is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language references 1-9 appears in the Appendix attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 1-7 are attached hereto.

- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese references has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1-7.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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JAO:JSA/cqc

Date: June 24, 2004

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CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY  
BETWEEN THE INVENTION AND MATERIALS

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-11-242545
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-6-059993
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-6-259345
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-11-015757
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-6-062046
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-10-301905

These Publications are described in the specification.

7. Pajek: Reference Manual (Program for Analysis and Visualization of Large Networks)

This document is a manual for a software program that employs relationship information to calculate various indicators including an indicator for visualization.

8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-2003-085347

This publication discloses an evaluation apparatus and an evaluation method relating to the present invention.

9. The Active Lurker: Influence of an In-house Online Community on its Outside Environment

This publication discloses a description of a presentation made by a part of the inventors of the present invention in an academic conference held on November 2003.

Sheet 1 of 1Form PTO-1449  
(REV. 8-83)US Dept. of Commerce  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.  
118463APPLICATION NO.  
10/762,475

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANTS  
Masamichi TAKAHASHI et al.FILING DATE  
January 23, 2004GROUP  
2857

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1)	JP A 11-242545 w/ abst. & trans	09/07/1999	JAPAN		
	2)	JP A 6-59993 w/ abst. & trans	03/04/1994	JAPAN		
	3)	JP A 6-259345 w/ abst. & trans	09/16/1994	JAPAN		
	4)	JP A 11-15757 w/ abst. & trans	01/22/1999	JAPAN		
	5)	JP A 6-62046 w/ abst. & trans	03/04/1994	JAPAN		
	6)	JP A 10-301905 w/ abst & trans	11/13/1998	JAPAN		
	7)	JP A 2003-85347 w/ abst. & trans	03/20/2003	JAPAN		

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	8)	Batagelj et al., "Pajek: Program for Analysis and Visulation of Large Networks," Reference Manual, List of Commands with Short Explanation, Version 1.00, pp. 1-72, January 27, 2004
	9)	Takahashi et al., "The Active Lurker: Influence of an In-House Online Community on Its Outside Environment," Academic Conference, 10 pages, November 2003

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: June 24, 2004